

# NATIONAL SYMPOSIA ON TRANSPORTATION

The National Symposia on Transportation are being hosted by the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center as part of its 30th Anniversary celebration. The Symposia will address three transportation topics of national interest: Public-Private Partnerships, Education and the Workforce, and Enabling Technologies.

The Symposia will bring together public officials, researchers, academics, transportation professionals, members of the financial and legal communities, manufacturers, vendors, and other transportation stakeholders. Speakers and presentations will provide valuable background information on the topics at hand, and will use real-world examples to illustrate innovative technologies and techniques. Discussion groups and question-and-answer sessions will provide opportunities for meaningful exchange of ideas and experiences.

The Symposia will be held at the Volpe Center, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Each symposium will last one and one-half days and will include a dinner reception.

More information about each symposium, including invited speakers and discussion topics will be sent to you in future mailings.

MAY JUNE AUGUST

## General Meeting Format for Each Symposium

### DAY ONE: 8:30 AM

Continental Breakfast, Registration,  
and Exhibits

Welcoming Remarks and  
Opening Session

Luncheon

Discussion Sessions

Reception

Dinner

### DAY TWO: 8:00 AM

Continental Breakfast and Exhibits

Discussion Sessions

Plenary Session

Adjourn (12:30 PM)

### What is the Volpe Center?

The John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center is an internationally recognized center of transportation-related research and development, engineering, and analysis. The Volpe Center helps decision makers define transportation problems and pursue effective solutions.

For over 30 years, the Volpe Center has engaged in a broad mix of projects that span multiple transportation modes and technical disciplines. The Center assists Federal, state, and local governments in systems analysis, information systems support, strategic investment and resource allocation, program evaluation, environmental assessments and remediation, and organizational effectiveness. The Center also conducts many outreach and educational programs that promote communication among transportation professionals and a collaborative approach to transportation innovation.

# 2001 NATIONAL SYMPOSIA

ON TRANSPORTATION



MAY JUNE AUGUST

# 2001

VOLPE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS CENTER

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS



1



## Implementing Successful Public-Private Partnerships in Transportation

May 15-16, 2001

The need for new and improved transportation infrastructure is greater than ever. Meanwhile, shrinking budgets and reduced public borrowing make it more difficult for state and local governments to fund the construction and operation of transportation facilities and systems. Many state and local agencies have partnered with willing private sector entities to finance research and implementation of new technologies. Participants share risks, responsibilities, and rewards as they collaborate on projects vital to the public interest.

This symposium will explore the complex nature of public-private partnerships. Topics for discussion include:

- How can public agencies identify appropriate transportation-related projects for public-private investment?
- What financing options are available for these joint ventures?
- How can public agencies attract the interest of appropriate private partners?
- What are effective monitoring and evaluation approaches for transportation partnerships?
- How might tax codes, labor policies, or other legal issues impede project implementation? How can these impediments be overcome?

2



## Innovations in Transportation Education and Workforce Development

June 21-22, 2001

The nation's transportation system is based not only on physical infrastructure and technology, but also on human capital. Investments in professional development improve existing capabilities and provide the basis for future innovation. Today's diverse, complex transportation system requires an integrated approach to education, one that includes professionals at all levels. Innovative education concepts offer flexibility and effectiveness, and a culture of lifelong learning will facilitate recruitment, training, and retention of a skilled transportation workforce.

Topics for discussion at this symposium include:

- How can recent technological innovations be used for transportation education?
- What strategies and technologies are used by the U.S. military to educate a widely dispersed workforce? What can these approaches offer the transportation community?
- What hiring and retention ideas can help the public sector attract top talent in a tight labor market?
- What public education techniques are being used to involve community members in the transportation decision-making process?

3



## Enabling Technologies and Transportation Innovation

August 7-8, 2001

As technological advancements continue at dizzying speed, transportation professionals need to keep abreast of those innovations that have the greatest potential to benefit mobility, safety, security, the economy, and the environment. Greater communication between researchers and practitioners will promote relevant research and speed the implementation of new devices and systems. The wealth of new technologies also means that transportation professionals must become more skilled at evaluating the public benefits, life-cycle costs, and safety and security implications of new technologies.

This symposium will draw together a wide range of professionals to exchange ideas regarding emerging technologies that have valuable transportation applications:

- How mature are these technologies and how might they be advanced?
- What potential vulnerabilities exist in these technologies?
- How can the implementation and operational costs be compared to existing technologies?
- What new policies and regulations must be considered in conjunction with these new technologies?